

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 CU-02 /030 W
-----010626Z 085900 /11
R 010437Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2312

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 3765

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SEDU PINT IR
SUBJ: STUDENT UNREST AT PAHLAVI UNIVERSITY

REF: SHIRAZ A-17

1. AMCONSUL SHIRAZ REPORTS STUDENT UNREST AT PAHLAVI UNIV REPORTED REF AIRGRAM IS CONTINUING. COLLEGES OF AGRICULTURE AND ENGINEERING HAVE BEEN CLOSED FOR REMAINDER OF SEMESTER AND ALL EXAMINATIONS CANCELLED. STUDENTS WILL LOSE CREDIT FOR ENTIRE TERM. BOYCOTT OF CLASSES IN COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE IS CONTINUING, APPARENTLY TO FORCE CLOSURE OF COLLEGE AND CANCELLATION OF EXAMS.

2. ON APRIL 26 THERE WAS STUDENT DEMONSTRATION INVOLVING VERY LITTLE VIOLENCE BUT MUCH SHOUTING. UNIV OFFICIALS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO KEEP LOCAL POLICE OFF CAMPUS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, BUT AFTER DEMONSTRATIONS ON THE 26TH, LOCAL POLICE ARRESTED SEVERAL RINGLEADERS WHO WERE REPORTEDLY LATER RELEASED. DEMONSTRATION LEADERS WHO WERE ARRESTED EARLIER REMAIN IN JAIL. ON APRIL 27 LARGE CONTINGENT OF POLIC WAS ON CAMPUS AND ATMOSPHERE WAS TENSE BUT QUIET. UNIV OFFICIALS REPORT THAT WHILE CLASSES ARE ALMOST EMPTY, THERE IS NEAR 100 PERCENT ATTENDANCE AT COLLEGE EXAMS.

3. SHIRAZ COMMENT: PRESENT UNREST HAS APPARENTLY BEEN
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FUELED BY DECISIONS OF COLLEGES OF AGRICULTURE AND ENGINEERING TO CANCEL EXAMS AND FORFEIT OF STUDENT CREDIT FOR SEMESTER. STUDENTS AT THOSE COLLEGES FEEL THEY ARE BEING DISCRIMINATED AGAINST. ANOTHER PROBABLE CAUSE MAY WELL BE "SPRING FEVER" AND DESIRE TO SKOP CLASSES IN ORDER TO CRAM FOR EXAMS. THERE IS NO FURTHER INDICATION THAT AMERICAN PROFESSORS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN DEMONSTRATIONS--THEY ARE

JUST "STANDING IN THE BACKGROUND".

4. TEHRAN COMMENT: VICE PRES OF NARMAC TECHNICAL COLLEGE SAID SHIRAZ SITUATION WAS CAUSED BY ADMINISTRATION'S FAILURE TO ACT FIRMLY AND IN TIME TO HEAD OFF STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS. THIS INDIVIDUAL NOTED PAHLAVI CHANCELLOR FARHANG MEHR SEEMS TO HAVE LOST HIS TOUCH IN HANDLING STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS. USIS OFFICER HEARD MEHR COMMENT OTHER EVENING THAT IT WAS "PROBABLY TIME TO GO". REST OF IRANIAN ACADEMIC SCENE RELATIVELY QUIET AS SCHOOLS HEAD FOR THE FINISH LINE.
MIKLOS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TEHRAN03765
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770152-0870
Format: TEL
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197705105/aaaadnmv.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 18896088-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SHIRAZ A-17
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2337196
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STUDENT UNREST AT PAHLAVI UNIVERSITY
TAGS: SEDU, PINT, IR, PAHLAVI UNIVERSITY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/18896088-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009